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DENBIGHSHIRE EDUCATION AUTHORITY.

EDUCATION ACTS, 1902-7.

Medical Inspection of School Children

REPORT

of the

School Medical Officer

for the

Year ended 31st December, 1948

H. ARWEL THOMAS,

M.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

School Medical Officer.

Wrexham.

September, 1949.

PREFACE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Denbighshire Education Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the report on the work of the School Medical Service for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

The National Health Service Act, 1946, which came into force on July 5th, 1948, introduced important changes in the administration of the School Medical Service. Specialist and hospital treatment provided by the Local Education Committee was, under Section 48 of the Education Act, 1946, transferred to the Regional Hospital Boards. The Hospital Boards also undertake the responsibility to provide Specialist services at Schools, Clinics, and other premises not transferred to the Regional Hospital Board. The Specialist and Nursing Staff attached to the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital visit the Orthopaedic Clinics held in the County.

Arrangements have also been made for the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist on the staff of the local hospitals to visit the School Clinics and examine children referred to him by the Assistant School Medical Officers. All operations for Tonsils and Adenoids are, however, carried out at the hospital where the children are kept in as in-patients for three nights. The arrangements for the inspection and treatment of school children by Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists in the Western portion of the County is unsatisfactory. Children have now to travel from Colwyn Bay and Abergele districts to Denbigh Infirmary. The Regional Hospital Board has been informed of the Education Authority's requirements but up to the present no indication has been received as to how these proposals are to be implemented.

Reference is made in the body of the report to the services of Mr. Courtenay Yorke, F.R.C.S., who terminated his engagement as Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist under the Education Authority in December, 1948. He was appointed Specialist to the Authority 23 years ago.

The shortage of dental staff persists and no response has been received to recent advertisements. This has added a greater strain on the present Dental Staff, and although more pupils are allocated to each Dental Officer, it has not been possible to provide routine treatment in every school. Mr. D. Glen Thomson commenced duties as Senior Dental Officer on the 1st January, 1948, and a copy of his Report will be seen on pages 7 to 12. It will be noted that six permanent clinics, fully equipped, were established at convenient centres during the year. It is also worthy of note that the acceptance rate for treatment was 76% and that in 8 schools in the County the acceptance rate was 100%. The report contains an interesting table showing the incidence of dental caries in the five year old children in three areas in the County.

During the year Mr. Gordon H. Craine, Assistant School Dentist, resigned and left the County to undertake duties with the Lancashire County Council. The vacancy caused by his departure has not been filled.

In conclusion I would record my indebtedness to all members of the County Health Staff, Medical, Dental, Nursing and Clerical, for the unremitting way they have carried out their respective duties during the year. I would also express my thanks to the Committee and to the Director of Education and his staff for their support and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

H. ARWEL THOMAS,

County Medical Officer.

Staff.**Medical.**

Dr. H. Arwel Thomas, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer.

Dr. T. Kenrick Hughes, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Deputy County Medical Officer.

Dr. W. McKendrick, M.D., D.P.H.,
Assistant County Medical Officer, also Medical Officer
of Health, Colwyn Bay.

Dr. M. Jones Roberts, M.B., Ch.B.,
Assistant County Medical Officer.

Dr. Sybil O. Edwards, M.B., Ch.B.,
Assistant County Medical Officer.

Tonsils and Adenoids Clinics—Mr. Courtenay Yorke,
F.R.C.S., Liverpool (Visiting Surgeon) (resigned
December, 1948).

Orthopaedic Treatment at Clinics—Mr. D. L. Griffiths,
F.R.C.S. (Visiting Surgeon).

Child Guidance Clinic—Dr. R. S. Wilson, Denbigh Mental
Hospital (Visiting).

Dental.

Senior Dental Officer:

Mr. D. Glen Thomson, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)
(appointed 1/1/48).

Assistant Dental Officers:

Mr. H. E. Fussell, L.D.S.,
Colwyn Bay, Llanrwst, Abergel, Denbigh, etc.,
districts.

Mr. G. H. Craine, B.D.S. (resigned 30/9/48).
Wrexham Rural (part); Ruthin Rural (part);
Llangollen Urban.

Mr. R. A. Rider.
Wrexham Rural (part); Ceiriog Rural;
Hiraethog Rural (2 schools).

Mr. J. G. Roberts, L.D.S.,

Half-School Medical Service (Higher Education).
Half-Maternity and Child Welfare.

School Nurses.

(Apportionment of time—one half as School Nurse and one half as Health Visitor).

Miss K. Jones,	Rhos, Ponciau, Penycae, etc.
Miss M. E. Jones,	Cefn, Acrefair, Llangollen, etc.
Miss C. J. Thomas,	Brymbo, Broughton, etc.
Miss E. A. Bodsworth,	Gresford, Rossett, Llay, etc.
Mrs. E. G. E. Rees,	Coedpoeth, Bwlchgwyn, South- sea, etc.
Miss Eirlys Jones,	Ruabon, Rhostyllen, Eyton, Holt, Erbistock, etc.
Miss M. D. Evans,	Llanrwst, Hiraethog, Glan- conway, etc.
Miss B. Evans (resigned 30/6/48),	Chirk, Vroncysyllte, Ceiriog, etc.
Miss E. M. Tyler (appointed 21/10/48),	Chirk, Vroncysyllte, Ceiriog, etc.
Miss E. Williams (resigned 30/10/48),	Ruthin Borough and Rural, Cerrig, etc.
Mrs. I. E. Garner,	Abergele Urban, part of Aled, etc.
Mrs. D. Williams (née Jones),	Denbigh, part of Aled, etc.

Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse.

Miss M. E. Thorpe.

School Clinic Nurse.

Miss M. Williams.

Dental Attendants.

Mrs. M. Jarvis.

Miss I. E. Sanderson.

Miss E. Bellis.

Miss L. M. A. Lee (appointed 8/1/48).

Administration.

Assistant Administrative Officer.

Mr. J. T. Pritchard.

Assistant Clerks.

Mr. T. J. Davies.

Mr. Emlyn Evans.

Mr. Gwilym Davies.

Mr. W. K. Davies (resigned 3/7/48).

Miss Edna Hughes.

Miss D. Garner Jones.

Miss Kathleen Rooney.

Miss Hilda Jones.

Miss Margaret Whittaker.

Mr. David Davies.

Miss Barbara Bailey (appointed 29/8/48).

Medical Inspection.

The arrangements for school medical inspection followed the schedule of the Ministry of Education.

The number of children examined at routine medical inspections in 1948 was 9,566 as compared with 8,781 during 1947.

Entrants	3268
Second Age Group (8-9 years)	1663
Third Age Group (12-13 years)	4574
Other periodic inspections	61
Total	9566

In addition 530 other inspections were carried out by the Assistant Medical Officers.

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Cleanliness.

Special visits are paid to the schools by School Nurses for the purpose of examining the bodies and scalps of children. No previous notice of the visits is given the head teacher or parent. The homes of children found to be infested are visited by the School Nurse and the question of prevention and treatment discussed with the parents. On the whole the parents are found to be co-operative and anxious to carry out treatment.

During the year 32,685 children were examined in schools for cleanliness. Out of this number 1,087 were found to be infested. In this number children with few nits are included.

Impetigo.

43 children were found to be suffering from Impetigo, a slight decrease on the number found in 1947 which was 49.

Tonsils and Adenoids.

1,266 children were found to have defects of the nose or throat. Of this number 384, in the opinion of the Assistant School Medical Officers, required operation and were referred for special examination by the specialist. The remaining 882 were kept under observation and required no operative treatment.

Ear Diseases.

7 children found to be suffering from Otitis Media were referred for treatment, whilst 31 required to be kept under observation.

Number of Schools in the County.

The area of the Denbighshire Education Authority consists of 427,977 acres and includes 193 Modern and Primary Schools.

The number of Grammar Schools in the County is 10 and these are attended by a total number of 3,598 pupils.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

Report of Senior Dental Officer.

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my report on the work of the Dental Service during my first year in the County.

I regret reporting that during the year 1948, Mr. Gordon H. Craine, B.D.S., resigned and joined the staff of the Lancashire County Council—a post which he found to be more lucrative (1/9/48). It has not been possible to replace him. It was hoped that additional Dental Officers would be appointed during the year but this also has not been possible, and the shortage of staff has adversely affected the operation of the dental scheme in the County.

Under the terms of the Education Act, 1944, and the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council will require to provide priority dental service to all children and adolescents aged 5 to 18 years, with provision for dental care to pre-school and nursery school children under 5 years old.

Investigation by the British Dental Association and Local Authorities indicates a ratio of 2,500 of the school population eligible for dental treatment under the County Scheme, to each Dental Officer, to give an adequate and satisfactory service, and this figure is accordingly recommended as the ultimate objective. In the interim, it is proposed that the figure will be 3,200 pending the introduction of a more extensive scheme together with the Maternity and Child Welfare work. Ultimately, some seven and a half Dental Officers will be required, and if the Wrexham Borough is included, 9.

Clinics.

It is proposed that the County be divided into areas, each of which will contain a Central Clinic. Up to the present such Clinics have been established at

1. Cefn.
2. Colwyn Bay.
3. Denbigh.
4. Gwersyllt.
5. Rhos.
6. Wrexham.

It is very important that the Clinic should be able to provide accommodation and equipment equal to that obtaining in private practice in order to ensure that the standard of service is adequate. The Clinics already established have excellent items of equipment and enable the Dental Officers to perform their important duties under favourable conditions. The Dental equipment contained at these Clinics includes:—

1. Pump Chair.
2. Electric Engine.
3. Instrument Cabinet of modern design.

Rural County Schools.

The position regarding Dental Treatment in the small and remote rural schools presents a much greater difficulty.

School premises or hired rooms are used and these are usually primitive and with most unsatisfactory lighting arrangements. Small schools do not contain a medical inspection room and an improvised surgery is set up in the porch, classroom, or even cloakroom. Most items of portable equipment are interchangeable and can be used in rural areas or Clinics. It is thus possible for the Dental Officer to use his portable equipment in the fine weather when he is working in rural areas and the operating light is good, and the Clinics during the winter time when he will require artificial lighting.

Orthodontics.

There has been a large increase in this branch of the work and it will continue to increase as the parents are aware that such facilities exist.

Orthodontic treatment is the science of correcting misplaced teeth and treating anomalies of jaw relationship. Irregular teeth are difficult to clean and more prone to dental caries. Some irregularities affect speech, others mastication, while many interfere with breathing. A successful case is most valuable and often spectacular. There are numerous examples of aesthetically irregular teeth having a psychological effect on a child, which is removed when the case is successfully treated.

Orthodontic appliances were supplied in respect of 19 primary school children and 12 secondary school children. 174 visits were made for adjustment of the appliances.

Emergency Dental Treatment.

An emergency clinic is held on Saturday morning at Wrexham and is very well attended by children requiring urgent dental treatment.

Acceptances for Treatment.

The percentage of children accepting dental treatment was 76%, and in the following schools 100% acceptances were obtained:—

1. Cefn Meiriadog.
2. Capel Garmon.
3. Llanarmon D.C.
4. Rhiwlas.
5. Cefnhirfach C.
6. Maengwynedd C.
7. Penylan N.P.
8. Llangwm N.P.

454 parents were present during the treatment of their children and the opportunity was taken of explaining the type of treatment and instruction given in all oral hygiene.

The high percentage of acceptances is due in many instances to the co-operation of Head Teachers. A Head Teacher has often-times much more influence over the children than have the parents, and a keen, interested Teacher is able to obtain a high percentage of acceptances.

Dental inspections are always conducted on school premises during school hours. 9,432 primary school children were inspected during the year and 95 sessions devoted to the work, an average of 99.4% per session.

51 schools were not visited during the year. Owing to the shortage of Dental Officers it has not been possible to provide routine treatment throughout the whole of the County. The position shows no sign of improvement and the principles enunciated in the Board of Education Circular 1523 of August, 1940, will be applied during the year.

Dental Laboratories.

The establishment of a central Dental Laboratory in Wrexham to provide facilities for the provision of artificial dentures and orthodontic appliances would be most helpful. An essential part of the service would be facilities for the speedy repair of broken dentures. The number of dentures provided by the County during the year for nursing and expectant mothers was 304, and children who required this provision subsequent to the loss of front teeth by accident or disease was 29. 31 orthodontic appliances were also provided.

One Dental Technician working under the supervision of the Senior Dental Officer would be sufficient staff. The present arrangements are not very satisfactory as all work is sent to a Liverpool Laboratory. There has been a tremendous increase in this type of work owing to the operation of the National Health Scheme and mothers and children are compelled to wait a considerable time for their dentures as the laboratories are overwhelmed with work.

In conclusion, I would like to pay tribute to the excellent co-operation afforded by the teaching staff throughout the County. I reiterate that much of the success of the dental scheme is due to their efforts. Also commendation is due to the whole of the dental staff whose loyal co-operation has been manifest during the year. The services of the administrative and clerical staff are also acknowledged.

Statistics.

The appended Statistical Returns will, I feel sure, be perused with much interest.

D. GLEN THOMSON,
Senior Dental Officer.

Primary Schools and Secondary Schools.

The operations performed during the year comprised:—

Amalgam Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	1394
Amalgam and Cement Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	4068
Silicate Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	534
Permanent Teeth Extracted	...	...	...	...	...	2056
Temporary Teeth Extracted	...	...	...	...	...	7847
Scalings	...	...	...	...	...	211
Gum Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	37
Trimming of Fractured Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	1
Orthodontic Appliances Fitted (H.E.12; E.E.19)	...	...	...	...	...	31
Adjustment to Orthodontic Appliances	...	...	...	...	...	174
Fillings polished	...	...	...	...	...	77
Impressions	...	...	...	...	...	50
Bites	...	...	...	...	...	13
Try-Ins	...	...	...	...	...	25
Dentures Fitted (H.E.19; E.E.10)	...	...	...	...	...	29
Repairs to Dentures	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dressings	...	...	...	...	...	27
Crowns Fitted	...	...	...	...	...	1
Root Dressings	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sockets Syringed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Haemorrhage Arrested	...	...	...	...	...	11
Advice given to parent	...	...	...	...	...	147
X-Ray	...	...	...	...	...	2

**Table giving the incidence of Dental Caries
in the Five Year Old Child.**

D—Decayed Teeth.

M—Missing Teeth.

F—Filled Teeth.

Area.	No. of children inspected.	No. of children with no D.M.F. (Sound).	No. of children with 1 D.M.F.	No. of children with 2 D.M.F.	No. of children with 3 D.M.F.	No. of children with 4 or more D.M.F.
Colwyn Bay	150	55	19	29	20	27
Gwersyllt	42	10	5	8	3	16
Rhos	179	19	26	32	41	61
	—	—	—	—	—	—
	371	84	50	69	64	104

22% of the children had sound teeth.

Colwyn Bay Area.

The dental conditions of the children was very good, with 36% found to have sound deeth.

Rhos Area.

The dental condition was very bad, with only 10% sound.

The average for Great Britain is 22% aproximately.

This table is a very useful guide to the dental condition of the five year old child and gives an easy method of comparing the amount of dental caries in succeeding years.

It is hoped that more areas will be given in following years.

DIPHThERIA.

Immunisation against Diphtheria of children under 5 years of age and of school age is carried out by the Assistant School Medical Officers and General Practitioners. Special sessions

for immunisation of children are held regularly at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics in the County, School Clinics and Schools. The position in regard to immunisation in the County as a whole is satisfactory.

The number of children immunised in the County during the year 1948, was as follows:—

Under 5 years of age	2094
Between 5-15 years	171
	<hr/>
	2265
	<hr/>
Repeat doses	1863
	<hr/>

Since 1937, the number of children immunised in the County is 50,827.

The following table shows the percentage of children immunised in the several sanitary authorities in the County:—

	Children 1-5 years.		Children 5-15 years.
Urban Districts.			
Abergele	80.7	...	93.7
Colwyn Bay	87.1	...	95.0
Denbigh	87.8	...	94.8
Llangollen	87.5	...	98.0
Llanrwst	98.0	...	98.9
Ruthin	89.9	...	98.5
Wrexham	69.8	...	83.5
Rural Districts.			
Aled	78.6	...	91.3
Ceiriog	81.2	...	92.5
Hiraethog	92.8	...	95.0
Ruthin	84.6	...	98.8
Wrexham	79.6	...	95.0

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

It is with much regret that I record the fact that Mr. Courtenay York, F.R.C.S., Throat Specialist, Rodney Street, Liverpool, terminated his engagement with the County during the year.

Mr. Courtenay Yorke has rendered faithful and efficient service to the County since his appointment in March, 1925. His Clinics throughout the County have been exceptionally well conducted and highly successful and on no occasion has there been any untoward incident to report. His co-operation with the School Medical Service of this County was complete and although he had a large private practice and was Aurologist to the Liverpool City School Authority, he never once failed to attend a Clinic in Denbighshire upon request. I am very grateful to Mr. Courtenay Yorke for the services he rendered to the County.

The following are particulars of the clinics held during the year, showing the number of children who attended for examination and operation :—

Clinic	Dates held.	No. of children	
		Attended for examina- tion.	Operated upon
Denbigh	29/1/48	20	12
Denbigh	26/2/48	21	12
Denbigh	20/5/48	20	12
Denbigh	3/6/48	22	12
Denbigh	17/6/48	17	11
Denbigh	24/6/48	21	12
Colwyn Bay ...	15/7/48	18	12
Colwyn Bay ...	29/7/48	25	12
Colwyn Bay ...	19/9/48	16	8
Colwyn Bay ...	30/9/48	21	12
Llanrwst	28/10/48	26	12
Denbigh	18/11/48	17	12
Wrexham (Mr. R. D. Aiyar's Clinics)		175	87
		419	226

Supply of Milk.

From a statement received from the Director of Education the following children received milk in school during 1948 :—

Primary Schools (Infants and Juniors) 13752

Secondary Schools (Modern and
Grammar) 5225

Provision of Meals.

The number of children receiving meals in schools on December 31st, 1948, was as follows :—

Primary and Secondary Schools 14009

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

ORTHOPAEDIC DEFECTS.

Since the coming into force on 5th July, 1948, of the National Health Service Act, 1946, responsibility for the treatment of Orthopaedic defects has been transferred to the Regional Hospital Board. The Surgeon and Nursing Staff are attached to the Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen, and the centres are the same as those established prior to July, 1948. Children found at School Medical Inspection to have Orthopaedic defects are referred by the Assistant Medical Officers for examination and treatment. During the first half of the year, 582 children were treated at the Orthopaedic Clinics in the County and 46 were treated as in-patients at the Hospital.

Owing to the transfer on July 5th, 1948, of the Orthopaedic Service to the Regional Hospital Board, I am not able to furnish the number of patients treated for the whole of the year 1948. The following, however, are the number of patients treated under the School Medical Service from 1st January, 1948, to 4th July, 1948 :—

AFTER-CARE.

Name of Clinic.						No. of children treated.
Wrexham	...	...	...	...	...	213
Rhos	...	...	...	...	...	95
Colwyn Bay	...	...	...	...	...	72
Denbigh	...	...	...	...	...	99
Cefn	...	...	...	...	...	79
Oswestry	...	...	...	...	...	23
Corwen	...	...	...	...	...	20
Rhyl	...	...	...	...	...	5
						—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	606
						—

IN-PATIENT TREATMENT.

Total number treated	...	...	...	45
Total number in-patients days	...	...	...	1135

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Under the Education Act, 1944, the Local Education Authority is responsible for ascertaining handicapped children. Under Regulations in 1945, the Minister of Education specified eleven categories of handicapped children for which special educational treatment, as distinct from medical treatment, should be provided.

A handicapped child may be educated at a Residential or Day Special School or he may be taught in a Special Class attached to an ordinary school. There is considerable difficulty in placing these children in suitable schools and consideration should be given to establishing a Residential School in North Wales in conjunction with the other North Wales Counties. If handicapped pupils require prolonged treatment at a hospital then the Local Education Committee can arrange with the Regional Hospital Board for special educational facilities for the children at a hospital school.

The number of handicapped pupils maintained in special schools is 13.

Special examinations were carried out by the Assistant Medical Officers for the purpose of "ascertaining" children under the appropriate categories.

The numbers found were as follows:—

	M.	F.	Total.
Blind	3	1	4
Partially Blind ...	—	—	—
Deaf	5	5	10
Partially Deaf ...	2	—	2
Delicate Pupils ...	1	1	2
Diabetic	2	—	2
Educ. Sub-normal ...	8	6	14
Epileptic	4	1	5
Maladjusted	1	2	3
Phys. Handicapped ...	6	5	11
Speech Defect	1	—	1

WREXHAM CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

1948 REPORT.

Clinic Staff.

Psychiatrists—R. S. Wilson, Esq., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., (Ed),
Dipl. Psych. (E); J. D. Lucy, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.S.,

Psychologist—Miss Martha Vidor, Ph.D. (Leipzig).

P.S.Ws—Miss D. M. Thomas; Miss B. Downer.

During the past year the Clinic has continued to work steadily. Sessions have been held every Friday during the school terms for psychotherapy and diagnostic work in the mornings, and in the afternoons a play group is run by the psychologist, who has also continued her individual work with the children and obtained encouraging results. A welcome development this year has been the increasing use made of the child guidance service by the Juvenile Courts both for diagnostic and treatment purposes, and the wider appreciation of our work in the community is encouraging and helpful.

The Clinic Staff has remained the same except that in October we were sorry to lose the services of Miss Thomas owing to pressure of work elsewhere, but we were very glad that Miss Downer was able to replace her. Dr. Marshall left to take up another appointment in London, and his place has been taken by Dr. Lucy. Miss Evelyn Francis, Wrexham, continues to give invaluable help in the playroom.

Analysis of Work.

Number of Sessions	46
and 1 diagnostic session in Denbigh.	
Number of children referred	98
Denbigh	88
Flint	9
Montgomery	1
Number of children carried over from 1947	9

Work done.

Psychiatrists' Interviews	184
Psychologists' Interviews	363
Testing	74
Treatment	115
Playgroup Attendances	174

Psychiatric Social Worker :—

Home and School Visits and to other Agencies	103
Interviews at the Clinic	207

(Signed) R. S. WILSON.

SPEECH THERAPY.

Two children were found to require treatment and 51 were found requiring to be kept under observation.

There is no Speech Therapist in the County and children have to be referred for treatment to the Therapist at Chester Infirmary. It is considered that the number of pupils would not justify the appointment of a full-time Therapist but consideration should be given for making an appointment in conjunction with other Counties.

**THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT
OF THE ORGANISERS OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR
THE PERIOD ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1948.**

General.

The work in Physical Education has shown marked progress during the period covered by this report. All schools in the County have been visited, demonstration lessons given and the newer and more informal methods of approach to the subject taught.

Progress has been more marked in the infant and primary schools than in the Modern and Grammar Schools owing to the greater degree of specialisation required in the latter and the shortage of adequately qualified teachers.

The main handicaps are the lack of indoor accommodation, inadequate and roughly surfaced playgrounds and the shortage of portable apparatus. This last is gradually being remedied and it is hoped that by the end of the school year the Modern and Primary Schools will have sufficient apparatus,

All portable equipment and gymnasia have been thoroughly inspected and tested by a firm of specialists who have also carried out necessary repairs and replacements. The work is done under supervision of the County Architect.

Courses.

An Athletic Course for teachers was held at Wrexham, on the 28th February, run by the male organiser. Forty-five teachers and youth leaders attended.

Equipment.

Most schools now possess a stock of small apparatus and this is being implemented through annual requisitions. A total of 4,580 pairs of gym shoes have been distributed to schools according to the number of pupils at each school. While this is still inadequate, it is hoped that an annual supply of shoes will be given to each school.

Swimming.

A system of graded swimming tests has been devised and children attending schools with access to baths have been encouraged and coached to attain the standards of these tests. A total of 254 certificates has been awarded this year in the three grades of Elementary, Proficiency and Advanced.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS.

Year ended 31st December, 1948.

TABLE I.**Medical Inspection of Pupils Attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.****A.—Periodic Medical Inspections.**

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

Entrants	3268
Second Age Group	1663
Third Age Group	4574
Total	<hr/> 9505 <hr/>
Number of other periodic Inspections	61
Grand Total	<hr/> 9566 <hr/>

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	343
Number of Re-Inspections	187
Total	<hr/> 530 <hr/>

C.—Pupils found to require Treatment.

No. of individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspections to require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Group.	For defective vision (ex. squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA.	Total individual pupils.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	104	941	1042
Second Age Group	131	452	543
Third Age Group	344	1342	1532
Total (prescribed groups)	579	2735	3117
Other Periodic Inspections ...	10	35	45
Grand Total	589	2770	3162

TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1948.

Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections. No. of defects.		Special Inspections No. of defects.	
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	42	65	—	1
Eyes :—				
(a) Vision	336	65	24	24
(b) Squint	34	129	6	8
(c) Other	67	111	1	5
Ears :—				
(a) Hearing ...	27	94	2	2
(b) Otitis Media	7	31	—	—
(c) Other	—	6	—	—
Nose or Throat ...	384	882	17	27
Speech	2	49	—	2
Cervical Glands ...	13	594	—	1
Heart and Circulation	10	160	—	4
Lungs	8	257	—	12
Developmental :—				
(a) Hernia	—	—	—	—
(b) Other	1	2	—	—
Orthopaedic :—				
(a) Posture ...	5	405	—	—
(b) Flat Foot ..	4	661	1	14
(c) Other	14	329	—	3
Nervous system :—				
(a) Epilepsy ..	—	2	—	—
(b) Other	1	10	—	—
Psychological :—				
(a) Develop-ment	9	40	—	2
(b) Stability ..	—	9	—	1
Other	4	100	—	6

B.—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils inspected during the year in the Age Groups.

Age Groups.	Number of Pupils inspected.	(A) Good.		(B) Fair.		(C) Poor.	
		No.	% of col. 2.	No.	% of col. 2.	No.	% of col. 2.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants ..	3268	125	3.8	3057	93.5	86	2.6
Second Age Group	1663	85	5.1	1512	90.9	66	3.9
Third Age Group	4574	320	6.9	4116	89.9	138	3.01
Other Periodic Inspections	61	11	18.03	50	81.9	—	—
Total	9566	541	5.6	8735	91.3	290	3.03

TABLE III.

Treatment Tables.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness,
for which see Table V).

Number of
Defects
treated, or
under treat-
ment during
the year.

(a) Skin :—

Ringworm—Scalp—	
(i) X-Ray treatment	—
(ii) Other treatment	2
Ringworm—Body	4
Scabies	12
Impetigo	43
Other skin diseases	14
Eye Disease	68
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital).	
Ear Defects	26
(Treatment for serious diseases of the ear e.g. operative treatment in hospital) should not be recorded here, but in the body of the School Medical Officer's report).	
Miscellaneous	347
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chil- blains, etc.).	
Total	516

(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's
minor ailments clinics 873

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excl. Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

	No. of defects dealt with.
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	361
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	—
	—
Total	361
	—
No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were:—	
(a) Prescribed	244
(b) Obtained	218

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

	Total No. treated.
Received operative treatment:—	
(a) for adenoids and chronic tonsilitis	226
(b) for other nose and throat conditions	—
Received other forms of treatment	—
	—
Total	226
	—

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	45
(b) No. treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments	606

Group V.—Child Guidance Treatment and Speech Therapy.

No. of pupils treated :—

(a) under Child Guidance arrangements 107

(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements —

TABLE IV.**Dental Inspection and Treatment.**

		Grammar schools.
(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—		
(a) Periodic age groups	9432	2130
(b) Specials	801	89
(c) Total (Periodic and Specials)	<u>10233</u>	<u>2219</u>
(2) Number found to require treatment ...	6273	1473
(3) Number actually treated	4763	879
(4) Attendances made by pupils for treat- ment	6953	1576
(5) Half-days devoted to :—		
(a) Inspection	95	19
(b) Treatment	<u>1167</u>	<u>243</u>
Total (a) and (b)	<u>1262</u>	<u>262</u>
(6) Fillings :—		
Permanent Teeth	4932	957
Temporary Teeth	<u>107</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	<u>5039</u>	<u>957</u>

(7) Extractions :—

Permanent Teeth	1347	709
Temporary Teeth	7586	262
Total	8933	971

(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction

3142 728

(9) Other Operations :—

(a) Permanent Teeth	401	284
(b) Temporary Teeth	147	—
Total (a) and (b)	548	284

TABLE V.

Infestation with Vermin.

- (i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurse or other authorized persons 32685
- (ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested 1087
- (iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) —
- (iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) —

TABLE VI.

School Medical and Dental Staff.

Names of Medical Officers.	Proportion of whole time (expressed as a percentage) devoted to	
	School Health Service.	Public Health.
S.M.O. :—		
Dr. H. Arwel Thomas	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %	66 $\frac{2}{3}$ %
A.S.M.O.s :—		
Dr. T. Kenrick Hughes	60%	40%
Dr. Sybil O. Edwards	60%	40%
Dr. M. Jones Roberts	50%	50%
Dr. W. McKendrick (also Medical Officer of Health Colwyn Bay Borough).	30%	20%
Senior Dental Officer :—		
Mr. D. Glen Thomson	50%	50%
Assistant Dental Officers :—		
Mr. H. E. Fussell	Whole time	—
Mr. R. A. Rider	Whole time	—
Mr. J. G. Roberts	50%	50%

SCHOOL NURSING STAFF.

	Number of Officers.	Aggregate of time given to School Health Service work in terms of whole-time Officers.
School Nurses	12	11 half-time S.M.S.; half-time M.C.W.; 1 whole time School Nurse.
District Nurses	—	
Nursing Assistant .	—	
Dental Attendants .	3	2 whole-time S.M.S.; 1 half-time S.M.S.; and half-time M. & C.W.

BOROUGH OF WREXHAM.**TABLE I.****Medical Inspection of Pupils Attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.****A.—Periodic Medical Inspections.**

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	494
Second Age Group	372
Third Age Group	243
Total	1109
Number of other Periodic Inspections	223
Grand Total	1332

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	63
Number of Re-Inspections	583
	—
Total	646
	—

C.—Pupils found to require Treatment.

No. of individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Group.	For defective vision (ex. squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table II A.	Total individual pupils.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	—	168	168
Second Age Group	17	134	147
Third Age Group	11	37	46
Total (prescribed groups)	— 28 —	— 339 —	— 361 —
Other Periodic Inspections	8	69	74
Grand Total	... — 36 —	... — 408 —	... — 435 —

TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1948.

Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections. No. of defects.		Special Inspections No. of defects	
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	22	13	10	2
Eyes :				
(a) Vision	36	—	—	—
(b) Squint	21	4	—	—
(c) Other	27	3	5	—
Ears :—				
(a) Hearing ...	5	—	1	—
(b) Otitis Media	5	—	—	—
(c) Other	2	—	1	—
Nose or Throat	248	124	6	4
Speech	—	4	—	—
Cervical Glands ...	37	257	—	1
Heart and Circulation	32	33	—	—
Lungs	37	19	4	3
Developmental :—				
(a) Hernia	—	2	—	—
(b) Other	—	2	—	—
Orthopaedic :—				
(a) Posture ...	3	58	—	—
(b) Flat Foot ...	3	—	—	—
(c) Other	5	—	1	—
Nervous system :—				
(a) Epilepsy ...	1	1	—	—
(b) Other	1	2	3	—
Psychological :—				
(a) Development	1	4	—	—
(b) Stability ...	—	—	—	—
Other	13	16	13	10

**B.—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils inspected
during the year in the Age Groups.**

		(A) Good.		(B) Fair.		(C) Poor.	
Age Groups.	Number of Pupils inspected.	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants ...	494	45	9.1	391	79.1	58	11.7
Second-Age Group	372	76	20.4	243	65.3	53	14.3
Third Age Group	243	55	22.6	152	42.6	36	15.2
Other Periodic Inspection	223	26	11.6	157	70.4	40	17.9
Total	1332	202	15.1	943	70.8	187	14.0

TABLE III.

Treatment Tables.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness,
for which see Table V).

	Number of Defects treated, or under treat- ment during the year
(a) Skin :—	
Ringworm—Scalp—	
(i) X-Ray Treatment	—
(ii) Other Treatment	—
Ringworm—Body	4
Scabies	20
Impetigo	128
Other skin diseases	169
Eye Disease	61
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital).	
Ear Defects	66
(Treatment for serious diseases of the ear (e.g. operative treatment in hospital) should not be recorded here, but in the body of the School Medical Officer's report).	
Miscellaneous	676
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chil- blains, etc.).	
Total	1124
(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ailments clinics	6121

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excl. Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

	No. of defects dealt with
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	88
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	—
Total	88
No. of pupils for whom spectacles were:—	
(a) Prescribed	71
(b) Obtained	—

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

	Total No. treated.
Received operative treatment:—	
(a) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	177
(b) for other nose and throat conditions	—
Received other forms of treatment	62
Total	239

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

(a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	included in County returns.
(b) No. treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments	included in County returns.

Group V.—Child Guidance Treatment and Speech Therapy.

No. of pupils treated :—

(a) under Child Guidance arrangements	included in County returns
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements	included in County returns

TABLE IV.**Dental Inspection and Treatment.**(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's
Dental Officers :—

(a) Periodic age groups	2990
(b) Specials	375
(c) Total (Periodic and Specials)	<u>3365</u>

(2) Number found to require treatment 1480

(3) Number actually treated 943

(4) Attendances made by pupils for treatment 1620

(5) Half-days devoted to :—

(a) Inspection	11
(b) Treatment	175
Total (a) and (b)	<u>186</u>

(6) Fillings :—

Permanent Teeth	1117
Temporary Teeth	—

(7) Extractions :—

Permanent Teeth	201
Temporary Teeth	797
	—
Total	998
	—

(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction

—

(9) Other Operations :—

(a) Permanent Teeth	81
(b) Temporary Teeth	72
	—
Total (a) and (b)	153
	—

TABLE V.**Infestation with Vermin.**

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons	29064
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	264
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2). Education Act, 1944)	—
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3). Education Act, 1944)	—

TABLE VI.

School Medical and Dental Staff.

Names of Medical Officers.	Proportion of whole time (expressed as a percentage) devoted to	
	School Health Service	Public Health
S.M.O. :—		
Dr. T. P. Edwards	One-fifth	Four-fifths
A.S.M.O.s. :—		
Dr. Barry Jones	2 half-days weekly.	—
Assistant Dental Officer :—		
Mr. Ross Wallis	5 sessions weekly.	—

School Nursing Staff.

	Number of Officers	Aggregate of time given to terms of whole-time Officers School Health Service work in
School Nurses ...	2	Whole-time.

Denbighshire County Council.

WREXHAM AREA DIVISIONAL EXECUTIVE.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

of the

Borough of Wrexham

(Dr. T. P. Edwards)

for the year 1948

To the Chairman and Members of the Wrexham Area Divisional Executive.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my 26th Annual Report on the work of the school medical service in the Borough of Wrexham.

This is included in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer of the County Education Authority.

In perusing this report, it will be noticed that there has been an increase in the number of cases of infectious disease including chiefly measles and whooping cough and to a less extent, scarlet fever. One satisfactory feature is the entire absence of diphtheria and no doubt this is due to the campaign of diphtheria immunisation which is continually being carried out at the school clinic and also in the various schools.

Arrangements for school meals have been further developed but there is need for better and more adequate arrangements at the various schools. The buildings were erected many years ago and to a certain extent are unsuitable for present requirements, though arrangements are now being made to remedy the state of affairs, and no doubt once the building programme of the Ministry of Education has been carried out, more satisfactory service will be provided, though many years will probably elapse before complete satisfaction can be obtained.

The staff at the school clinic have carried out their work in a very satisfactory manner, and one can only express one's appreciation of their services, and also of the co-operation we receive from Mr. Dowell and his staff.

I have, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Genlemen,

The honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

T. P. EDWARDS,

School Medical Officer.

Staff of the School Medical Service.

School Medical Officer and Ophthalmic Surgeon:

T. P. Edwards, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officer:

A. M. Barry Jones, M.B., Ch.B. B.Sc., B.A.O., D.P.H.,

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon:

R D. Aiyar, F.R.C.S.

Dental Surgeon :

Ross Wallis, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng).

School Nurses:

A. Martin, L. Warne

Clerks:

C. A. Evans E. R. Onions.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

At the end of the year there were 4,150 names on the registers of the various departments in the Borough of Wrexham and the average attendance was 3,585. In view of the recent housing developments in the eastern part of the Borough in Queen's Park Estate, the number of children on books at the Alexandra Schools is high and no doubt this will be remedied when a new school is erected for this area.

During the recent discussions of the Divisional Executive and its Sub-Committee, reference has been made on more than one occasion to the inadequate sanitary arrangements in the various schools. The standard of hygiene has been raised during the last few years and arrangements which were satisfactory when the schools were built are now inadequate and it is difficult to reconstruct arrangements according to modern standards without seriously interfering with the structural arrangements in the various schools. This matter is being kept under observation, and no doubt in the new schools which will be built and when the older schools have been reorientated the sanitary conditions will be materially improved.

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

During the year 1948, 1,332 children were inspected in the various age groups. Of these, 1,009 were in routine inspections and 223 in other periodic inspections such as the Leavers. These are examined with a view of making representations to the Ministry of Labour as to fitness for employment in their post-scholastic careers.

In addition to this, 63 special inspections were made. Owing to the fact that I was absent for the first six months of the year due to illness, this figure is substantially less than in previous years. In addition to this, 583 reinspections of school children were made in respect to the following up of defects noted during the routine medical inspection.

Uncleanliness.

The number of children found to be unclean was 34, including 28 head and 6 body uncleanliness. This is a decrease of 9 on the figures for the previous year.

Nutrition.

Of the 1,332 children inspected during medical inspections, 943 were found to have average nutrition and 202 had excellent nutrition and the remaining 187 were sub-normal.

Skin Disease.

Thirty-five cases of defects of the skin were discovered during the year. Of these 22 required treatment and 13 required to be kept under observation. In addition to these, 12 other cases were found during special inspections. Of these, 10 were found to require treatment.

Tonsils and Adenoids.

During the year, 372 cases of affections of the nose and throat were discovered. Of these, 248 were noted as requiring treatment and 124, or 33 per cent. were of such a nature as to require observation only. In addition to these, 10 others were found in special inspections of whom six required treatment.

Those requiring treatment were referred to the Consultant and were examined by him at his various clinics and the necessary treatment is carried out, including operative treatment at the War Memorial Hospital for the removal of tonsils and adenoids.

Ear Disease and Hearing.

During the year, 12 cases were found to require treatment. Of these, 5 were defective hearing, 5 of otitis media or middle ear disease, and 2 other conditions. In addition to this, 2 others were found, both requiring treatment, in special inspections.

Defective Speech.

During the routine inspection, 4 cases of defective speech were found requiring observation.

Enlarged Glands.

294 cases of enlarged cervical glands were discovered. Of these, 257 were of a mild type requiring observation and 37 required treatment. In addition to these, one case was found requiring observation during special inspections.

Defective Vision and External Eye Disease.

36 cases of defective vision was discovered during medical inspections and these were examined during the year at the special eye clinics held as occasion requires. In addition, 25 cases of squint were discovered. Of these, 4 required observation and the rest were found to require treatment. 19 of these were referred to the specialist at the Emergency Hospital for specialist treatment. 30 cases of external eye disease were found. Of these, 27 required treatment and 3 observation. In addition, 5 cases requiring treatment were found during special inspections.

Heart and Circulation.

65 cases of heart disease were discovered during routine inspections. Of these, 33 were functional cases and 32 were noted as requiring treatment.

Pulmonary Conditions.

56 cases of pulmonary infections were found. Of these, 37 required treatment and 19 observation. In addition, 7 were found in special inspections of whom 4 required treatment. No cases of tuberculosis, either pulmonary or non-pulmonary, were discovered during the year.

Nervous Disease.

2 cases of epilepsy were discovered, of whom 1 required treatment, and 3 other diseases of the nervous system. Of these, one required treatment and 2 observation, and 3 other cases were found requiring treatment in special inspections.

Orthopedic Defects.

69 cases were found during the routine inspections. Of these, 61 were postural of whom 58 required observation only. Three cases of flat feet were found requiring treatment, and 5 other defects were found requiring treatment. One additional case was discovered requiring treatment in special inspections.

Other Defects and Diseases.

29 cases were found during routine medical inspections. Of these, 13 required treatment. 23 other conditions were found in special inspections of whom 13 required treatment.

MINOR AILMENTS.

An important feature of the work at the school clinic is that of attending to the cases of minor ailments amongst school children. Two sessions daily are held, and during the year 1,124 defects were treated and the total number of attendances amounted to 6,121.

Skin Disease.

421 cases of skin infections were treated at the school clinic. Of these, 4 were cases of Ringworm of the body, 20 cases of Scabies, 128 cases of Impetigo and 169 cases of other skin disease. There were no cases of Ringworm of the scalp.

Eye Disease.

61 cases of eye disease were treated at the clinic. These did not include errors of refraction, squint or cases admitted to hospital.

Ear Disease.

66 cases were treated during the year.

Other Defects.

676 cases of miscellaneous infections were treated. These were chiefly minor injuries, bruises, sores, etc.

ORTHOPAEDIC DEFECTS.

Children found to be suffering from orthopaedic defects are referred to the County Clinic, 16 Grosvenor Road, where they are inspected by specialists, and if necessary, are referred for treatment at the Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital. Particulars of the number of cases of Wrexham Borough school children are not supplied and these figures are now included in the County returns.

FOLLOWING UP.

The work of the Routine Medical Inspections cannot be efficiently carried out without the following up of cases by the school nurses.

The work actually carried out by the School Nurses during the year is as follows:—

Attendances at Routine Inspections:—

Medical	73
Dental	15
Attendances at Treatment Clinic	463
Attendances at Dental Clinic	180
Attendances at Aural Clinic	19
Attendances at Ophthalmic Clinic	13
Visits to Homes re Infectious Disease	93
Visits to Homes re Cleanliness	270
Visits to Homes re Physical Defects	496
Other Visits	215
Visits to Schools re Cleanliness	225
Visits to Schools re Physical Defects	40
Total Visits to Schools	301

ULTRA-VIOLET RAY TREATMENT.

During the year, 30 children received this form of treatment and made 294 attendances. The cases were as follows:—

Bronchitis	6
Debility	24
	—
Total	30
	—

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

The total number of cases seen by Mr. Aiyar was 239 and of these 177 received operative treatment.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

88 cases were examined by refraction and 71 were prescribed glasses.

EAR DISEASE AND HEARING.

19 sessions were held during the year and 49 cases were examined and treated.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the year, 240 cases of notifiable infectious disease amongst children were notified to the Health Department.

Of these, 109 were males and 131 were females. There were no cases of Diphtheria. There were 29 cases of Scarlet Fever, 13 of Pneumonia, 156 of Measles as compared with 74 in 1947 and 42 cases of Whooping Cough as compared with 3 in 1947. One satisfactory feature has been the total absence of Diphtheria amongst school children for the third year in succession.

In respect to the age incidence, 120 were aged 5, 58 aged 6, 25 aged 7 and 37 were in the age groups 8-15. In respect to the cases of Measles, of the 156 cases, 86 were of the age 5

group, 38 of the age 6 group and 20 of the age 7 group. Thus these three groups account for 144 cases of the 156. In respect to Whooping Cough, 23 cases were of the age 5 group and 10 of the age 6 group and the remaining 9 were over 6 years of age. It is satisfactory to note that there were no cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis or of Poliomyelitis (or Infantile Paralysis).

Disease.	Males.	Males.	Females.	Females.	Total.	Total.
	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948
Diphtheria .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet						
Fever	9	11	16	18	25	29
Pneumonia .	5	6	6	7	11	13
Measles	35	76	39	80	74	156
Whooping						
Cough	1	16	2	26	3	42
C.S.F.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others	3	—	—	—	3	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	53	109	63	131	116	240
	—	—	—	—	—	—

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE ARRANGED ACCORDING TO AGE.

Disease.	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total.
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	5	6	2	2	2	8	3	1	—	—	—	29
Pneumonia	6	4	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	13
Measles	86	38	20	5	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	156
Whooping Cough ...	23	10	2	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	42
Totals	120	58	25	10	10	10	5	2	—	—	—	240

DIPHTHERIA PROPBYLAXIS.

During the year visits were paid to the Infants Schools with reference to the immunisation of children against Diphtheria and a certain number of children also attended the School Clinic at 1 Grosvenor Road for reinforcing doses. 154 children were immunised.

A large number of children now attending the schools have been immunised in the first five years of their lives and in this case a reinforcing dose is given to keep up the immunity which has already been obtained before their admission to the school and 246 reinforcing doses were given during the year.

I have already referred to the fact that there has been no cases of Diphtheria in the Borough of Wrexham amongst school children during the past three years, which indicates the practical value of the steps being taken to protect children from a dangerous infectious disease.

TABLE SHOWING DIPHTHERIA INCIDENCE IN SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1938-1948.

[illegible]

ANTHROPOMETRIC INVESTIGATIONS.

I have resumed my investigations into the heights and weights of school children. Last year I was unable to do so owing to my illness so that I cannot compare this year's figures with those of last year but am able to do so for the year 1946.

For the lower age groups a new system of medical inspection cards has been in use and for this purpose it is necessary to take the heights and weights of each child during each term. This may mean extra work for the school staff but the value of these investigations cannot be over-estimated and I feel sure that they will appreciate this point.

During the year, 1,717 children were examined. Of these, 886 were males and 831 were females. These figures should be compared with those for 1946 when 1,083 were examined. We have included in our tables children aged three, four and six, and it is impossible to compare these with those in previous years when these age groups were not included.

Age 5.—The average height of the males is 42·4" as compared with 42·9" in 1946 and the females measure 42·5" as compared with 42·6" in 1946. It would thus appear that the males are of a shorter stature than was the case in 1946.

As regards weight, the males weighed on the average 42·0 lbs. as compared with 43·3 lbs. in 1946 whereas females weighed 43·8 lbs. as compared with 42·5 lbs. It would thus appear that the males are lighter in weight whereas females are heavier.

Age 8.—In this group the males measure 48·3" as compared with 48·4" in 1946, whereas the females measure 46·2" as compared with 47·8" in 1946. Thus the girls aged 8 measure very much less than in 1946, the difference being 1·6".

As regards weight, the boys weigh 56·1 lbs. on an average as compared with 55·0 in 1946, whereas the girls weigh 54·0 as compared with 52·9. Thus there is evidence to show that in this group both boys and girls are heavier than was the case in 1946.

Age 12.—The boys measure 56·5" as compared with 55·6" in 1946 whereas females measure 56·8" as compared with 55·18". Thus the boys and girls are slightly taller, and this is more accentuated amongst the girls.

As regards weight, the boys weigh 79.4 lbs. as compared with 75.9 in 1946, whereas the girls weigh 77.5 as compared with 77.0. Thus there is a very large increase in the average weight of boys on 1948 as compared with 1946.

Age 14.—In this age group the boys measured on an average 58.2" as compared with 60.2" in 1946. The girls measured 59.5" as compared with 60.1". Thus both sexes were shorter than the average in 1946.

As regards weight, the boys weighed 91.9 lbs. on the average compared with 94.6, and the females 94.9 as compared with 97.5 lbs. Thus both sexes are lighter in weight than was the case in 1946.

These figures are interesting when one takes into consideration the restrictions in diet, but these restrictions are offset to a certain extent by the school meals and milk which have been supplied in increasing numbers during the year.

Anthropometric Averages, 1948.

Age	Height (ins.)		Weight (lbs.)		No. included		Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
3	38.6	39.0	38.7	36.0	26	16	42
4	40.6	40.2	38.8	38.1	80	85	165
5	42.4	42.5	42.0	43.8	182	176	358
6	44.4	43.8	48.0	44.6	169	155	324
8	48.3	46.2	56.1	54.0	206	192	398
12	56.5	56.8	79.4	77.5	126	116	242
14	58.2	59.5	91.9	94.9	97	91	188
					886	831	1717

MEALS AND MILK IN SCHOOLS.

The following table give the particulars of the meals and milk supplied to school children during the year and shows that the number of children receiving meals has increased by 3 as compared with 1947, whereas the number of children receiving milk in school has increased by 93. As regards the meals, the number of children receiving free meals has diminished by 43, but the number of children receiving meals which were paid for has increased by 46.

In reference to the milk, 3,478 children have received milk in school. Of these, 3,451 were receiving one-third pint and 27 were receiving two-thirds pint per day. The percentage of children receiving meals in school was 48.3 as compared with 51 per cent. in 1947, and the percentage of children receiving milk in schools was 86.1 as compared with 89.0 in 1947. No doubt the lower percentages are due to an increase in the number of children on books, the increase amounting to 252.

Meals.

No. of children receiving free meals ...	509
No. of children receiving meals for payment	1445
	—
Total	1954
	—

Milk.

No. of children receiving $\frac{1}{3}$ pint	3451
No. of children receiving $\frac{2}{3}$ pint	27
	—
Total	3478
	—
Average No. of children on books	4038
Total No. of children receiving meals in Schools	1954
Percentage of children receiving meals	48.3
Total No. of children receiving milk in Schools	3478
Percentage of children receiving milk	86.1

SPECIAL SCHOOL.

The Special School for educationally retarded children is attached to the Alexandra School in Holt Road and is the only one of its kind in North Wales. During the year a large number of children were examined for mental defects at the schools, and as a result of these tests a number of children were admitted to the School which now has its full complement of children, i.e., 20 on the registers.

It must, however, be stated that there are many more boys than girls, although the school was originally intended for an equal number, but it is a difficult matter to arrange that the sexes should be equally distributed.

As the school is now full, it has been found necessary to refuse further admission, and no doubt others will be arranged when vacancies occur at the school. It must be pointed out that there are a certain number of children who are there in order to determine whether they are educable, but it is most difficult to arrange the transfer of children who are found to be ineducable owing to the lack of vacancies in the special institutions for children of this category.

I would like once more to express my appreciation of the excellent work done by Miss Green and her assistant, Miss Woodfine Jones.

